

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00

PA-02 SIL-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 OTPE-00 STR-04 /048 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7857

UNCLAS ADDIS ABABA 0868

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP ET

SUBJECT: TRADE PROMOTION EVENT SCHEDULE - FIFTH QUARTER

REF: A. STATE 005076

B. 75 STATE 048501

C. GENEVA 0032

1. MODERN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT TECHNICAL SALES SEMINAR WOULD RECEIVE WARM RECEPTION FROM BOARD OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS OF ETHIOPIA. BTE HAS AMBITIOUS PLANS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK AND WOULD WELCOME CHANCE TO MEET WITH AMERICAN FIRMS. BTE JUST OPENED BIDS FOR FIRST EARTH STATION AND ONE OF THREE BIDDERS WAS AN AMERICAN FIRM (GTE&. BIDS ARE STILL BEING EVALUATED. WHILE IMMEDIATE SALES POTENTIAL IS LIMITED DUE TO BUDGET CONSTRAINTS, EMBASSY BELIEVES THERE IS SUFFICIENT INTEREST AND LONG-TERM MARKET POTENTIAL TO JUSTIFY CONTINUED INCLUSION OF ETHIOPIA ON SCHEDULE. SEPTEMBER 19UY WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE DATE FOR SUCH VISIT.

2. EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO CLARIFY ONE APPARENT MINUNDERSTANDING. REFTEL B OF 5 MARCH 1975 STATED "RATIONALE FOR INCLUDING ETHIOPIA..." IS PRESENCE IN ADDIS OF PAN AFRICAN COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK." IN FACT, SUCH ORGANIZATION DOES NOT YET EXIST. REFTEL C REPORTED LATES DEVELOPMENTS INCLUDING FACT THAT DECEMBER 3-16 MEETING OF AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS ADMINISTRATORS IN KINSHASA UNANIMOUSLY DECIDED TO CREATE SUCH AN ORGANIZATION. STEERING
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COMMITTEE WILL MEET IN ADDIS ABABA IN MARCH TO BEGIN DRAFTING STATUTES FOR PATU. PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE FOR PATU

SCHEDULED TO BE CONVENED BY OAU IN ADDIS ABABA IN OCTOBER 1976.
AT THAT TIME, DECISION ON LOCATION OF PATU HZADQUARTERS WILL
BE MADE, ACCORDING TO LOCAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS OFFICIAL.
THUS, VISIT TO PATU SHOULD NOT BE COUNTED ON DURING SEPTEMBER
1976 VISIT TO ADDIS ABABA. HOWEVER, REGIONAL ITU OFFICE FOR
AFRICA IS LOCATED IN ADDIS ABABA AND THAT OFFICE IS WELL
INFORMED ON AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVELOPMENTS.
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